

Thamesmead: Landscape Led Regeneration

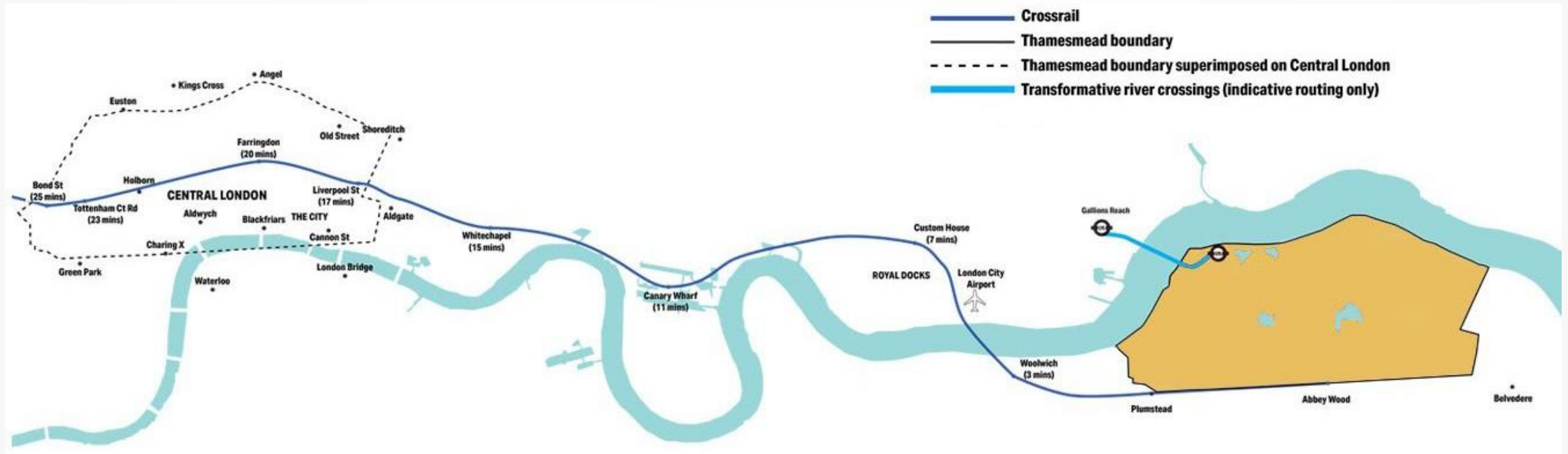
Trees for Thamesmead

TDAG 24th April 2023

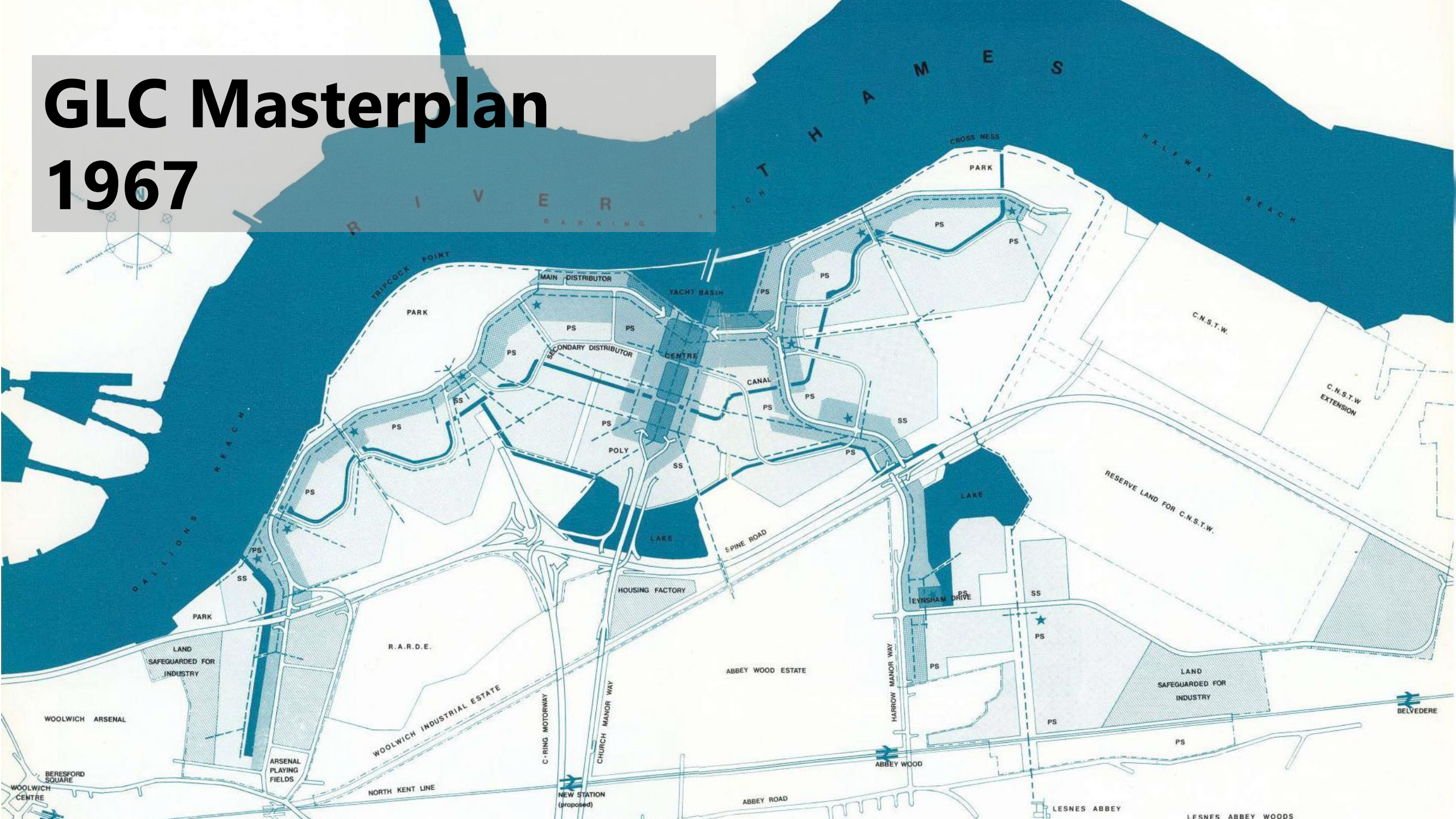
THAMESMEAD 

 Peabody

Thamesmead



GLC Masterplan 1967



Future living



Today

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Boston, showing a large residential complex in the foreground. The complex consists of several high-rise apartment buildings and lower-rise structures, surrounded by green spaces and a large pond. The background shows a dense urban area with a river and a bridge. A semi-transparent box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing text and a list of statistics.

- 45,000 people
- 16,000 households
- 5,200 owned by Peabody
- Area of 7.5² km
- 65% land owned by Peabody

Peabody Plan for Thamesmead

Five goals 2018-2023

Lived
Experience

Sort out the basics.
Make
Thamesmead feel
well managed and
cared for.

Growth and
Regeneration

Revitalise the built
environment. Build
new homes,
leisure and
commercial spaces
to broaden the
town's offer.

Landscape

Improve the
quality and use of
the natural spaces.

Culture

Make great culture
part of everyday
life, and use it to
put Thamesmead
on the map.

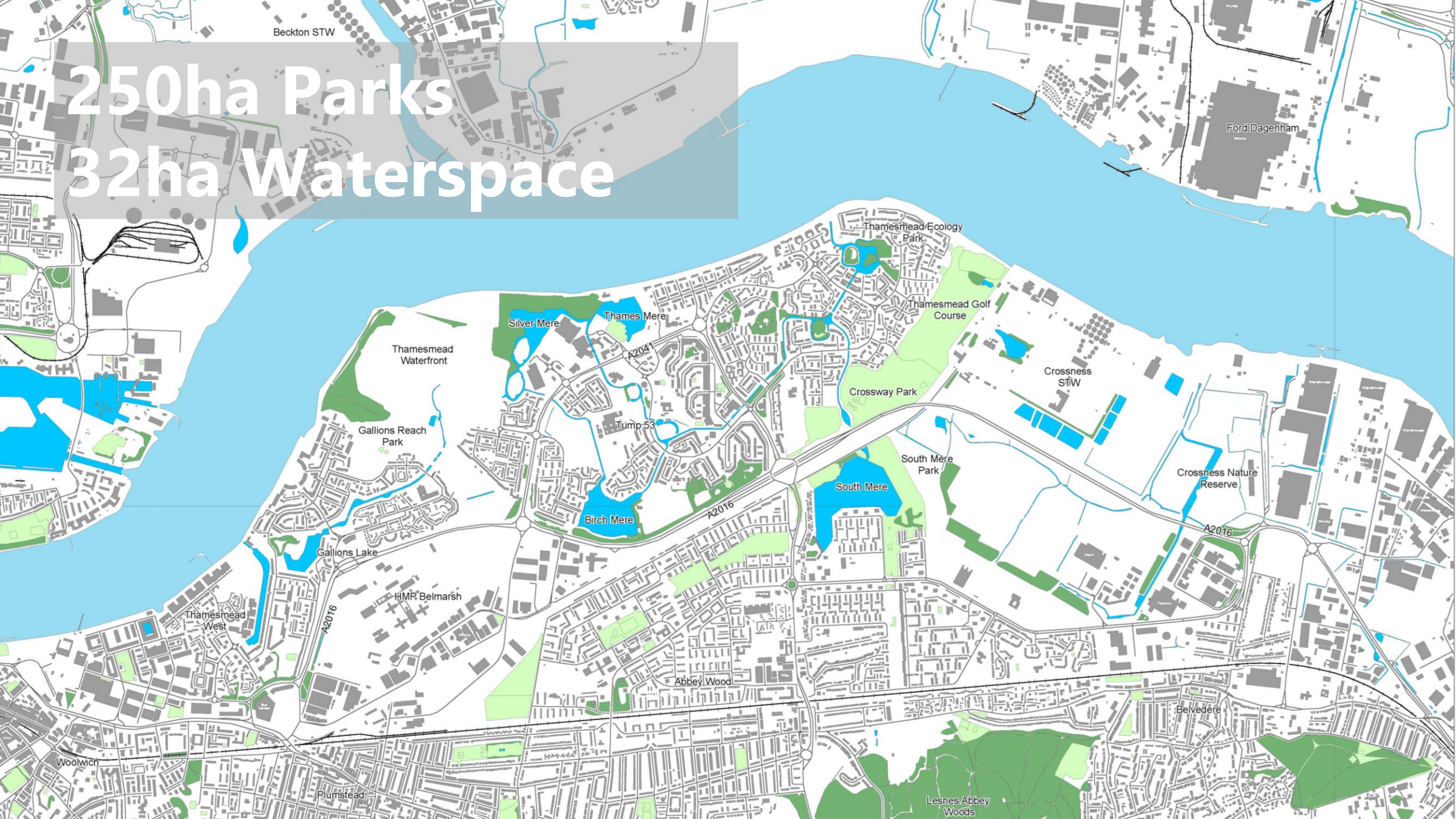
Community

Help people be
happier, healthier
and wealthier.

Incredible Green & Blue Assets



250ha Parks 32ha Waterspace



5 lakes



7km canals: London's largest SuDs system



5km Thames Waterfront



5 Neighbourhood Parks



14 Sites of Nature Conservation Interest

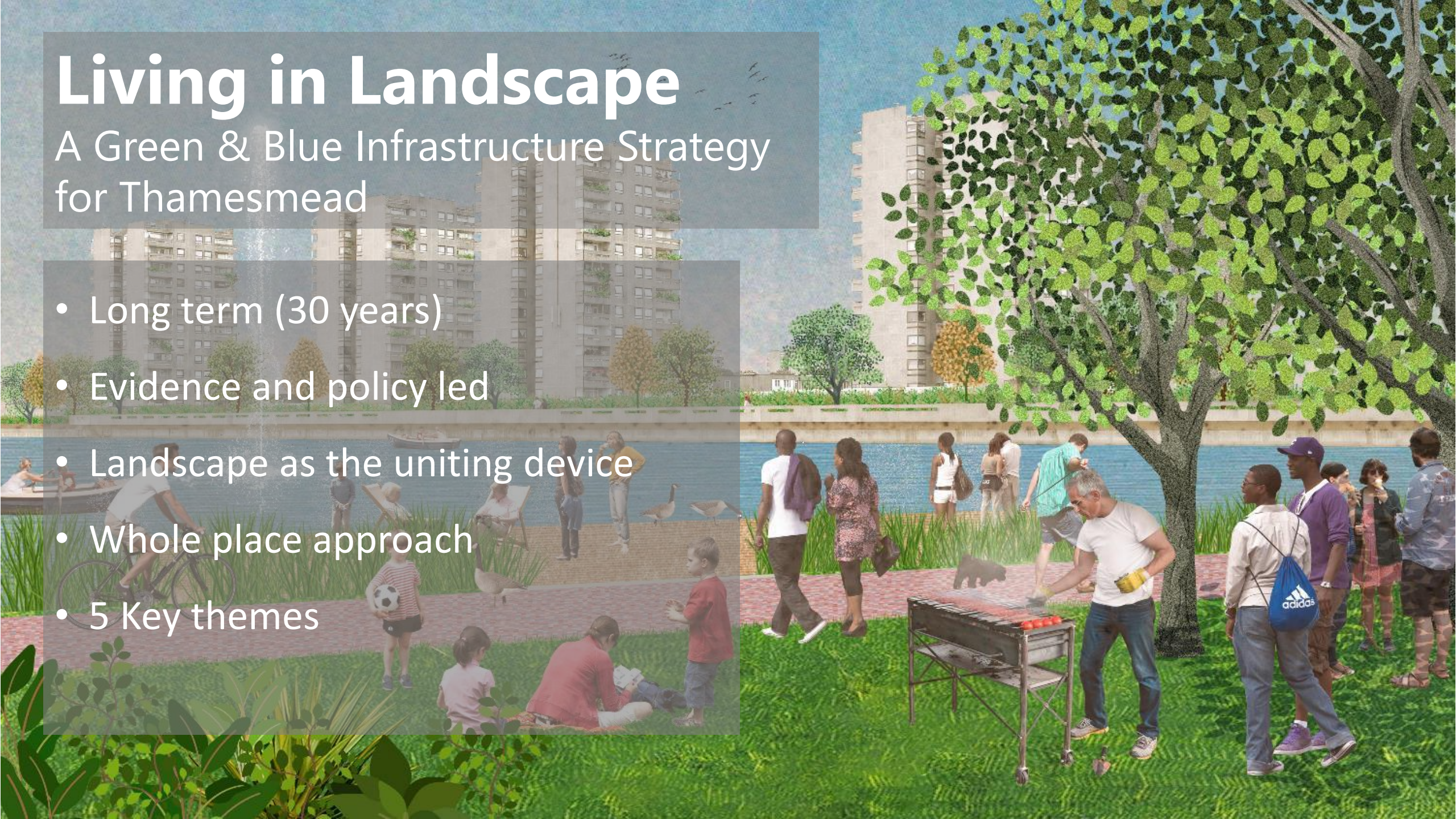
- 11 (non-statutory) designated nature conservation sites
- 22 Habitat types
- 188 plant species
- 13 species of dragonfly
- 32 species of Nationally Notable beetles
- 17 species of Nationally Notable bees and wasps
- 6 species of bat
- 3 species of reptile
- A London stronghold for the Water Vole



Living in Landscape

A Green & Blue Infrastructure Strategy
for Thamesmead

- Long term (30 years)
- Evidence and policy led
- Landscape as the uniting device
- Whole place approach
- 5 Key themes

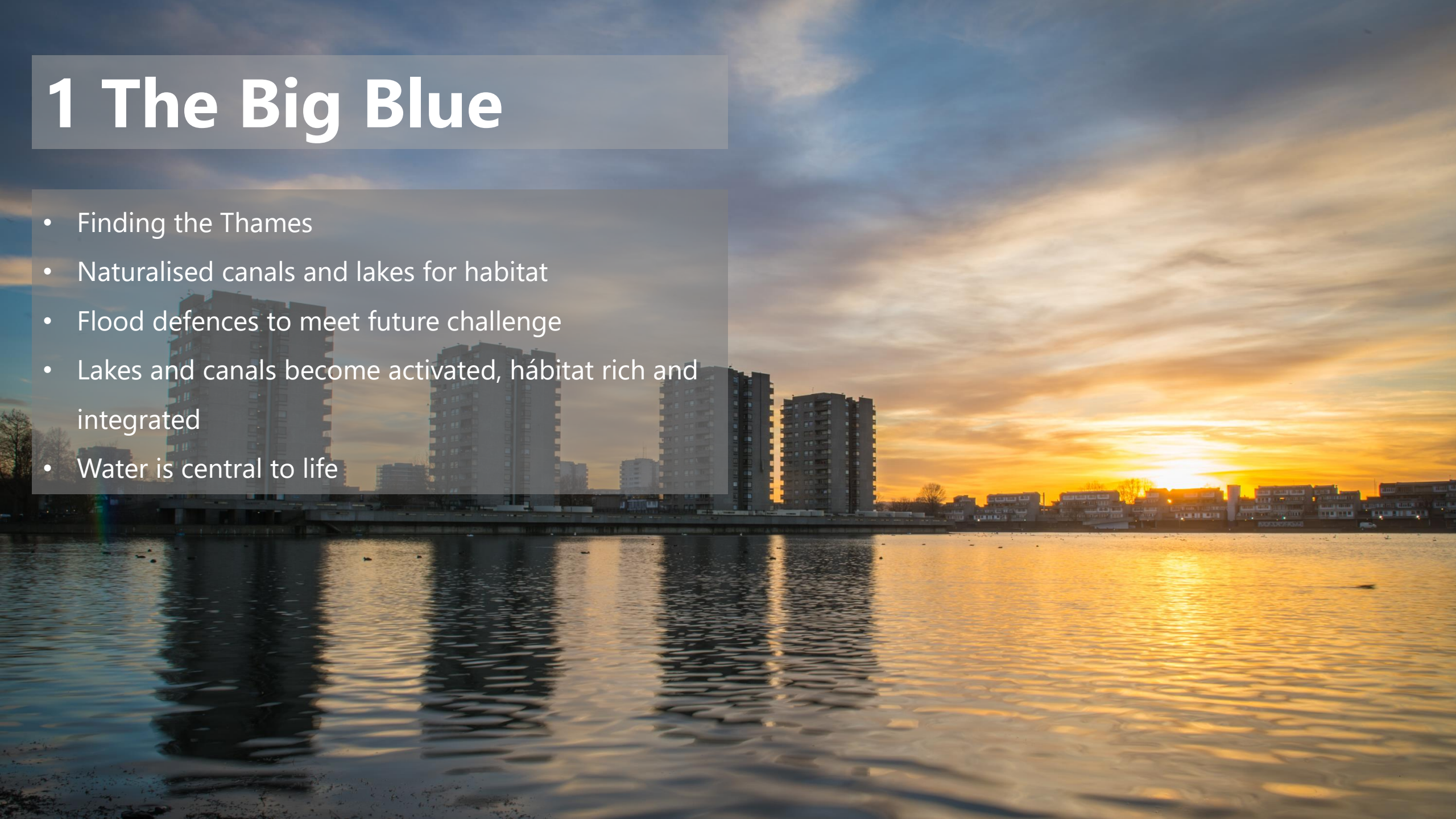


Plan



1 The Big Blue

- Finding the Thames
- Naturalised canals and lakes for habitat
- Flood defences to meet future challenge
- Lakes and canals become activated, habitat rich and integrated
- Water is central to life



2 Wilder Thamesmead

- London's largest new urban forest
- A Biodiversity Action Plan will protect and conserve Thamesmead's wild habitats and species
- Mown grassland replaced with Wildflower meadows to transform Thamesmead's featureless tracts of grassland
- New homes will be created for bats, birds and bees
- Thamesmead's buildings and structures will go from grey to green



3 A Productive Landscape



- Food growing is central to life in Thamesmead
- Thamesmead's green waste is put to good use.
- Thamesmead's landscape is used to educate, from outdoor classrooms to learning environmental skills.
- The Country Park is a wonderful place for riding horses and learning new skills.
- Lively markets and food stalls sell locally grown produce, bringing streets and squares to life.

4 Active

Thamesmead

- Thamesmead is known as a place for being active in nature
- The landscape is playful, and playable, creating a network that connects schools, nurseries and community centres.
- Thamesmead's residents will shape play to suit their needs and tastes, from bike trails to splash pads.
- The managed wilderness of Crossway Park and Wetlands is a focus for free-to-do outdoor sports
- The lakes and canals are places for anglers, kayakers, summer lidos and wild swimming.



5 Connected Thamesmead

- Active travel, walking, cycling and public transport is prioritised across Thamesmead. These will become the easy options.
- Gallions Reconnection is a new stretch of canal that honours the original masterplan for Thamesmead.
- A 6km cycleway and footpath will create a new artery into Thamesmead, making cycling to the shops easier.
- Central Way has become Thamesmead New Street, rebalanced for buses, cyclists and pedestrians. Framed by wildflower planting, it shows how even roads and streets can be made distinctively



Trees of Thamesmead

- 53ha Woodland & Trees
- 53,351 total number of trees in Thamesmead
- Store over 9,000 tonnes of carbon
- Sequester more than 340 tonnes of carbon per annum
- Trap and remove over 8.4 tonnes of air pollution
- Reduce surface runoff by over 14,728 m³ per year.

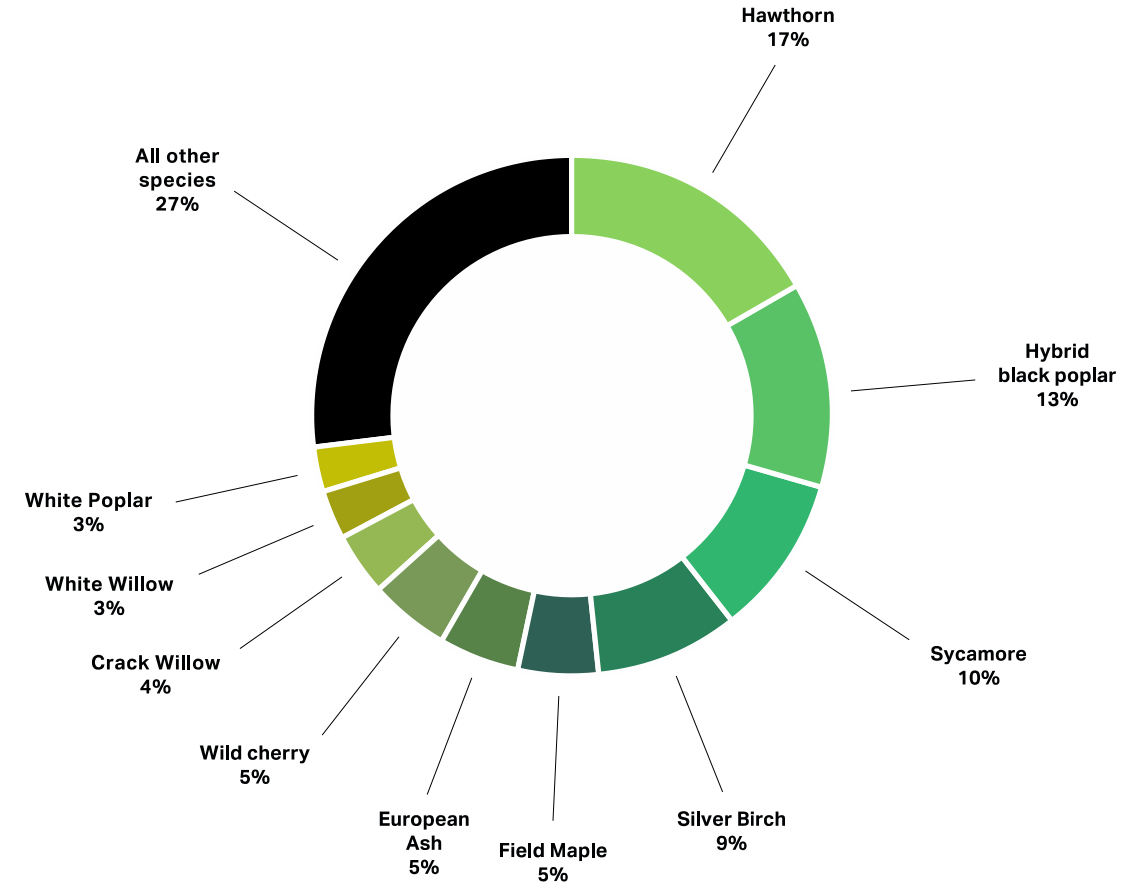
**I-TREE ECO
STRATIFIED
INVENTORY
REPORT
JULY 2021**



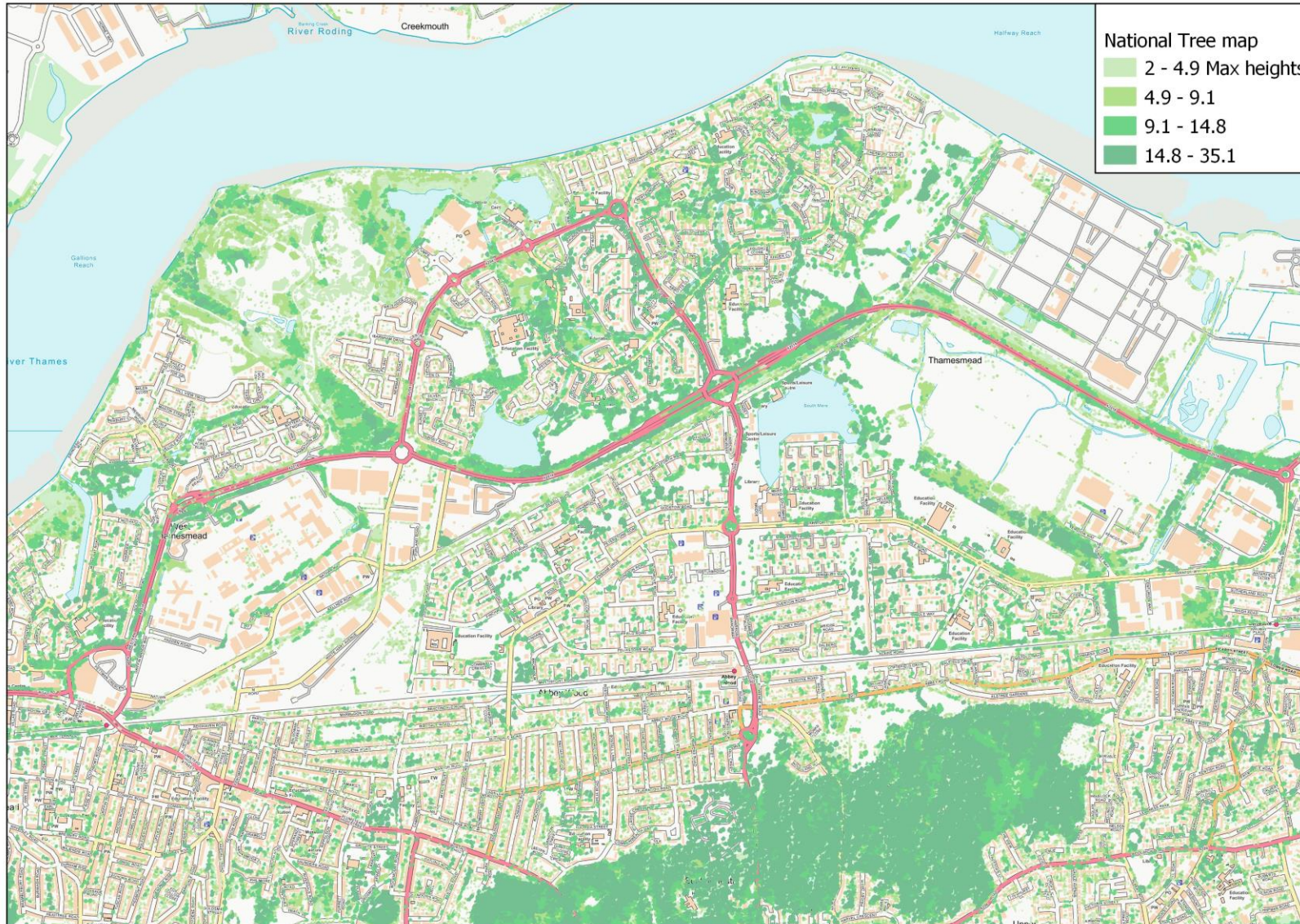
Number of Trees Assessed	53,351	
Most Common Tree Species	Hawthorn, Hybrid black poplar, and Sycamore	
Replacement Cost	£28,977,000	
CAVAT Valuation	£472,531,000	
Species Recorded	99	
Benefit Amounts and Values		
Carbon Storage	9,074 tonnes	£2,329,128
Annual Carbon Sequestration	349 tonnes	£89,584
Annual Pollution Removal	8.4 tonnes	£366,100
Annual Avoided Runoff	14,728 m ³	£11,782
Total Annual Benefits	£467,467	

Most common

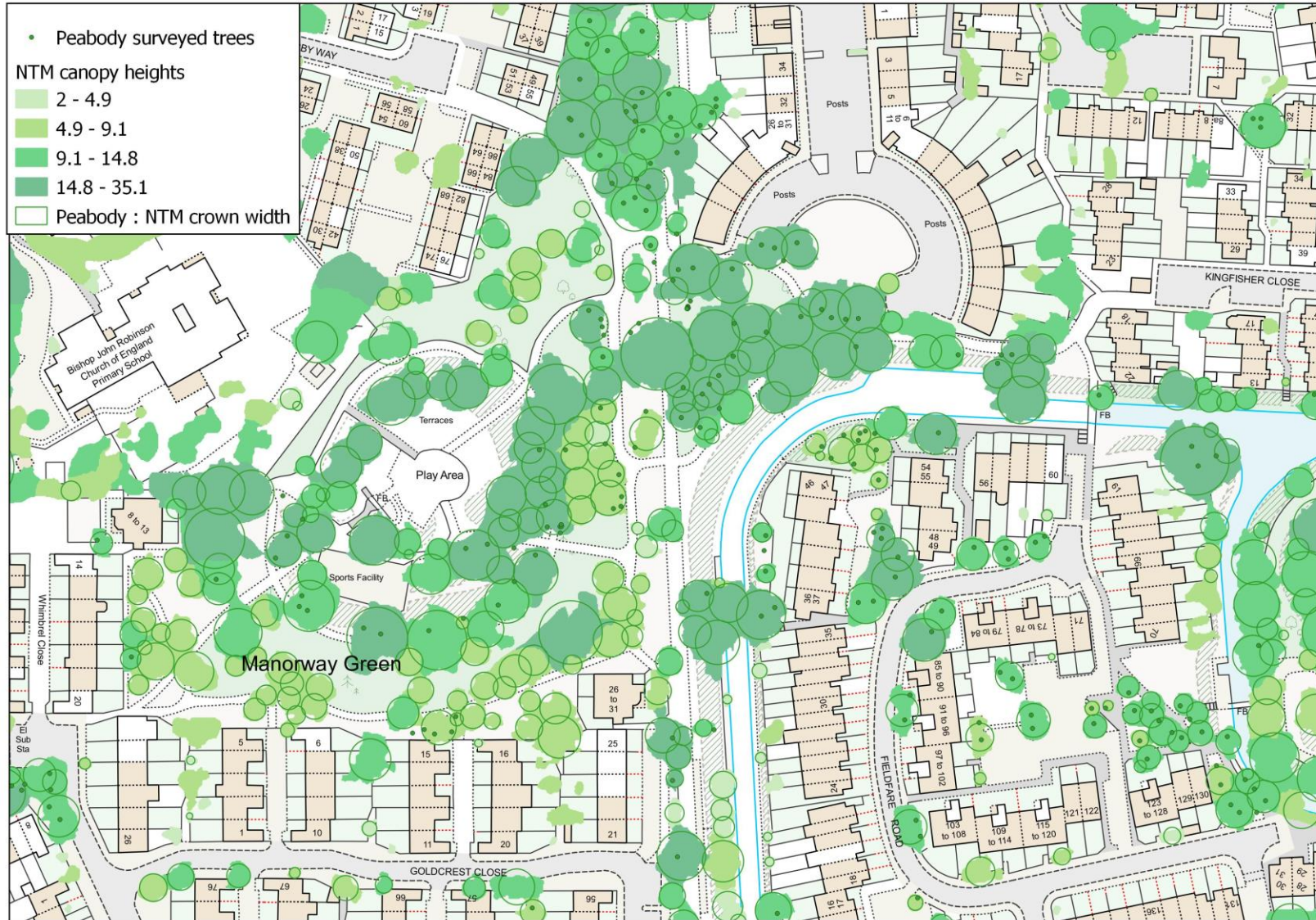
Common name	Scientific name
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna
Hybrid black poplar	Populus x canadensis
Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Silver birch	Betula pendula
Field maple	Acer campestre
European ash	Fraxinus excelsior
Wild cherry	Prunus avium
Crack willow	Salix fragilis
White willow	Salix alba
White Poplar	Populus alba



GIS Data



GIS Data



Key points

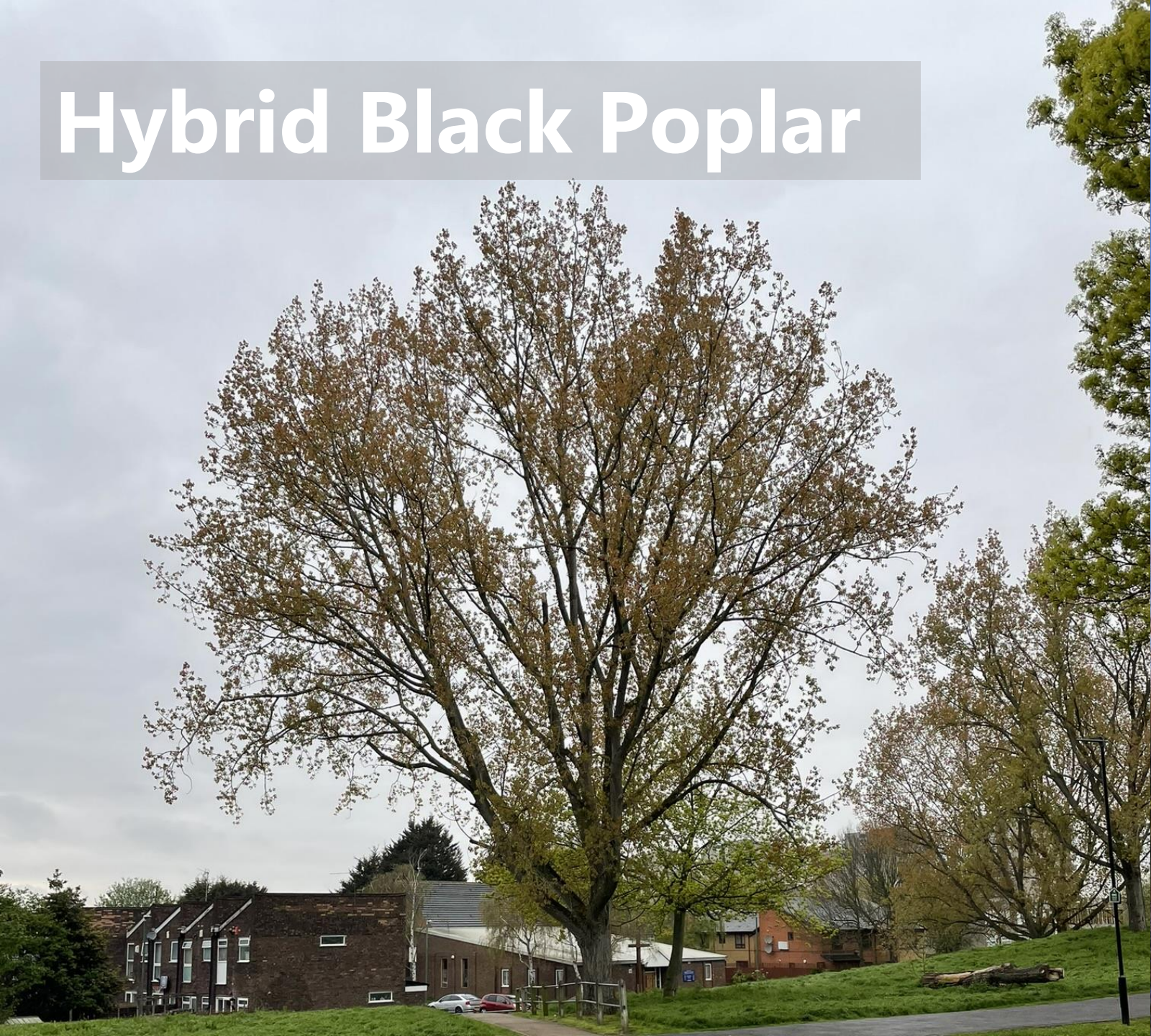
- Thamesmead's tree population is ageing
- There are not enough young trees to maintain the population
- Need to focus management on larger, more mature specimens
- Focus on planting more long lived species capable of maturing into larger trees in the future
- Hawthorn is the most common species
- Hybrid black poplar has the largest proportion of trees in the larger sizes



Hawthorn



Hybrid Black Poplar



Sycamore

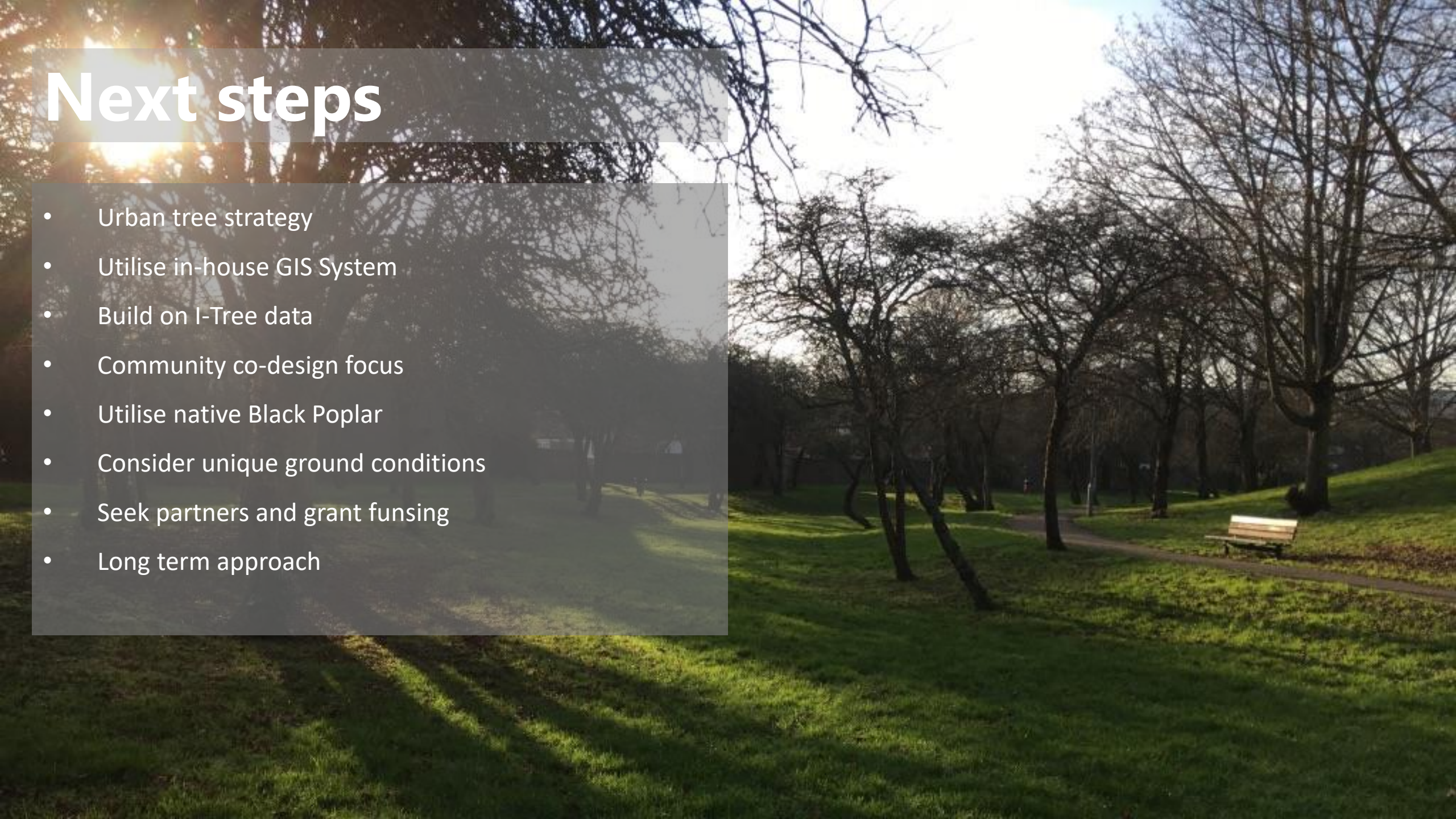


Willow



Next steps

- Urban tree strategy
- Utilise in-house GIS System
- Build on I-Tree data
- Community co-design focus
- Utilise native Black Poplar
- Consider unique ground conditions
- Seek partners and grant funding
- Long term approach



Native Black Poplar



Tiny Forest



Community orchard



Thank you

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